ELY

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

For the Year 1896,

BY

BUSHELL ANNINGSON, M.D., M.A.,

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE, UNIVERSITY

EXAMINER IN STATE MEDICINE, FELLOW AND MEMBER OF THE BOARD

OF EXAMINERS SANITARY INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN, FELLOW

AND MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF BRITISH INSTITUTE

PUBLIC HEALTH, ASSOCIATE KING'S COLLEGE,

LONDON, &c., &c.

Medical Officer of Health.

Cambridge:

PRINTED BY F. PIGGOTT, CAXTON WORKS, SIDNEY STREET.
1897.

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2017 with funding from Wellcome Library

ELY

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

For the Year 1896,

ВУ

BUSHEL ANNINGSON, M.D., M.A.,

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE, UNIVERSITY
EXAMINER IN STATE MEDICINE, FELLOW AND MEMBER OF THE BOARD
OF EXAMINERS SANITARY INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN, FELLOW
AND MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF BRITISH INSTITUTE
PUBLIC HEALTH, ASSOCIATE KING'S COLLEGE,
LONDON. &c., &c.

Medical Officer of Health.

Cambridge:

PRINTED BY F. PIGGOTT, CAXTON WORKS, SIDNEY STREET.
1897.



REPORT.

I beg leave to communicate for the information of the Rural District Council my sanitary report for the year 1896.

The total number of deaths which have been registered is 173, but Death-rate. this number must be corrected by the addition of deaths of persons belonging to the district which have occurred outside its boundary, viz.: in the Workhouse (situate within the urban district of the City of Ely) 15; in the County Asylum, at Fulbourn, 2; in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, 4; making a corrected total of 194, which on the census return of 1891 gives an annual death-rate of 15.1 per thousand living.

The total number of births registered is 361, equal to a birth-rate Birth-rate. of 28.2 per thousand living per annum.

The ratio of deaths under one year of age to 1000 registered births is 91.

The deaths registered as due to zymotic disease are:—from Scarlet zynotic disease. Fever, 2; Diarrhœa, 1; and Measles, 3; total, 6; equal to an annual death-rate from these diseases of 0.48 per thousand living.

The deaths which properly belong to each district are after distribution as follows:—

Sub-District.		Share of Workhouse.	Asylum.	Addenbrooke's Hospital.	Registered Deaths.	Total.
Haddenham		6	2	3	48	59
Sutton	• • •	3		• • •	43	46
Littleport		4		1	66	71
Downham		2		• • •	16	18
		erm-risultania				
Entire District	• • •	15	2	4	173	194

The death-rate and birth-rate of Haddenham are respectively 15.1 and 24.6; those of the other divisions are respectively Sutton 14.1 and 23.4; Littleport 16.5 and 34.2; Downham 9.3 and 29.3.

It will be observed from the above that the death-toll for the year is in all respects below that of the year, 1895, and that the decrease has taken place in all parts of the district except at the sub-district of Sutton, where there has been indeed a slight increase.

DISEASE INCIDENCE AND MEASURES TAKEN TO ARREST ITS SPREAD.

Scarlatina. In regard to disease incidence, although infectious disease, especially Scarlet Fever, has been more than usually present in certain parishes, the mortality of diseases of this group is much less:—0.48 against 1. Scarlatina especially has been prevalent in Stretham with Thetford and Witcham.

A sudden explosion of Scarlatina appeared in Thetford during January and February; only two cases in the first instance had been notified, and a visit to the place revealed seventeen cases in seven households, and subsequently two other cases in two separate households occurred. The illness appears to have been introduced from the adjacent village of Stretham, where two cases in one household occurred quite early in January; and further, the earlier case at Stretham was that of a girl who, a few days before the onset of the disease, had come home from service at Haddenham, where her master's young son had been ailing of a mild type of the same disease. The epidemic rapidly ceased under the measures adopted; but near the end of July, Scarlet Fever re-appeared at Stretham, commencing from a fresh point of infection at Stretham Ferry, where it appears to have been introduced from Chesterton. Eleven cases in nine households occurred between July 22 and October 8.

A solitary case imported from without the district occurred at Mepal at the end of July.

In the middle of July, a solitary case occurred at Downham; the school authorities were informed and recommended to exclude all members of the household for six weeks, and no evidence existed of the presence of Scarlet Fever in the village till the end of October, when two cases in an isolated household were notified on the same day. The circumstances led me to think that unrecognised cases had really been existent in the place for some time past, and took measures to discover them, and with the help of the medical practitioner succeeded in finding eight cases in four households. Verbal warnings were given, and printed placards distributed. No further cases so far as is known have occurred. Cows were kept and milk sold at the house first visited; the milk sale was ordered to be suspended, although milk had not seemed to be a factor in the distribution of the infection.

At Witcham, two cases in two separate households were notified on the same day at the beginning of September, and later three secondary cases in one of the households. Inquiry elicited facts which pointed to the introduction of the infection from without, probably Hunstanton. Directions were given and precautions taken, and no cases appeared as far as is known all through October. Circumstances at a subsequent visit, in connexion with the secondary cases, led me to suspect the existence of other cases in the village, with the result of finding two households where the children, in my opinion, were suffering from scarlatinal desquamation, but in view of the lateness of the disease period I desired confirmatory opinion, and accordingly asked the District Medical Officer to examine the cases, and to notify them if he agreed with me, whereupon they were duly notified as certainly scarlatinal. Subsequently other cases in other households appeared; in all there were twenty-five cases in eight households—two of them were milk purveyors, and the distribution of milk was of course interdicted. In the first instance school exclusion was recommended, and subsequently school closure.

At Littleport nine cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in December in four households. The infection appeared to have been introduced from Southery in the Norfolk district, where Scarlet Fever was stated to be prevalent.

Five cases of diphtheria have been notified at Witchford Diphtheria. (Jan. 6), Mepal (Feb. 6), Coveney (April 7), Wentworth (April 14), Sutton (Sept. 9). The one at Witchford occurred at a house where there had been cases the previous December. The cases at Mepal were visitors, who manifested the disease soon after their arrival; the sanitary conditions of the house were however unsatisfactory. Nothing could be elicited as to the case at Coveney, and it was of a very mild and ill-defined character.

The Wentworth case appears really to have been one of severe "drain-throat"; the sanitary conditions were especially bad and the house was damp.

The Sutton case had many points of similarity to the last mentioned, the sanitary conditions being exceptionally bad, even for Sutton; but it may be remarked, throat illness is of frequent occurrence in this place.

Seven cases of Typhoid Fever have been notified, six at Littleport, Typhoid Fever. and one at Haddenham.

The first case occurred at The Holme, June 24; the sanitary conditions were found to be faulty, and the domestic water supply obtained from the Holme's Lode; the next two cases occurred at two households in Silt Road, November 27 and 28; the water in this instance was obtained from Black Bank drain. The three remaining cases occurred in two households in the same neighbourhood, December 23, 29, and 30; the domestic water supply was obtained from the same source as in the previous cases. The water was examined and found to be highly polluted. I may here remark that cases of Typhoid Fever have been of frequent occurrence in the low-lying parts of Littleport, in which the water supply appeared to be the source of infection. During the year I have made a special report re water supply, which is adverted to below.

At Haddenham one case occurred, December 14; the water supply was found to be highly polluted.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water Supply.

With regard to the water supply of Littleport, the following report was communicated to the District Council on June 10th:—

"I beg leave to state for the information of the Council that I have again made an inspection of the water supply at Littleport, and have to report: (1) With regard to the Holme's Lode, which is one of the chief sources of supply, that it is becoming fouled by deposits of organic matter in its bed, especially between a point opposite to Francis' house and the head, the depth of the deposit ranging from one foot (about) to two-and-a-half feet; (2) With regard to the pipe of distribution along Hive Road, that on examination at two inspection holes, shewed it to be constructed of 4in. glazed earthenware pipes, having socketted joints, but uncaulked; (3) In regard to the catchment pits or wells for storage, that the brick lining is unsteined and rests on a silt bottom; the size of each well is stated to be about ten feet deep by three feet across.

"I beg leave to make the following recommendations: (1) With regard to the Holme's Lode, that as soon as convenient the deposit should be removed, and that as this operation involves stanking out of the water, a temporary supply should, if possible, be conveyed by the adjacent channels; (2) That in order to improve the quality of the water, a Pasteur filter should be interposed between the Lode and the

intake for the Hive Road, the Brewery, and the Factory respectively; (3) That the joints of the pipes along Hive Road should be properly caulked with gault or Portland cement; (4) That the well reservoirs should be made impervious to the soak water in their neighbourhood by proper steining of the brick lining by cement, and by the construction of concrete and cement floors."

It was mooted at the Council whether after all it would not be better to obtain a supply from the Ely Waterworks, which obtains its supply from the chalk formation at Isleham. The question was referred by the District Council to the Parish Council for their consideration and report, and it still rests with that body.

Several tanks have been cleared out and put in repair.

At Downham, running sand which choked the supply pipe, was removed from a well at Churchway and the pump repaired; this water is of good quality, and supplies a large district. At Town's End the waste water pipe, which was found to be stopped up and allowing water to run back into the well, has been put in proper order, and the well cleaned out.

With regard to Witchford, I must repeat my remarks of last year:— No results have yet followed the appointment of a Committee to select a suitable spot for a public well; it is to be hoped that some feasible plan may be devised during the current year.

At Witcham, a new gulley and drain have been made to carry off the waste water, which was found to be running back into the public well.

With regard to Sutton, I may advert to my special report of the end of the year 1895, quoted in my Annual Report for that year, as to the improvement of the drainage of the place, the defective character of which would appear to be the chief cause of pollution of the water supply. Eight additional samples from different points in the village have been taken as test cases, and all found to be more or less polluted, thus tending to support my previous statements as to the character of the water supply of the place.

The case of Stretham, which I have adverted to during the past two years, remains much the same, with the exception that the collecting well, which supplies the pump, has been cleaned out.

At Coveney, the pond reservoir has been found to require deepening, and it has been decided to deepen, recharge the filter with polarite, and repair the pump.

A petition for a better water supply was communicated to the District Council from the owner of the Hermitage, Earith Bridge, Haddenham, and owners of property near-by. The Inspector of Nuisances was instructed to inquire into the circumstances, and he found that a supply could be obtained by means of rain water from roofs of dwellings.

A sample taken from a well near the end of the village was found to be polluted.

Ten certificates have been applied for under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, Sec. 6, and granted by the Authority.

Parish ponds have been cleaned out at the following villages:—Coveney (1), Witchford (1), Sutton (1), Haddenham (5), Stretham (1), Thetford (1) and Downham (1).

DRAINAGE.

Drainage. At Littleport, several street gulleys, which were found to be leaky, have been puddled with clay and made secure.

At Haddenham, an extension of 6 chains of 12in. glazed socketted pipes with cement joints has been made in the main sewer at the back of gardens in High Street.

At Stretham, the sewer was found to be blocked at outlets into the watercourse; this defect has been remedied by taking up 3 chains of sewer, cleansing and relaying.

With regard to the drainage of Sutton following my report at the end of the previous year, on January 6th a committee of the District Council and their officers met the members of the Parish Council at Sutton, and with them made a thorough inspection of most of the village, and reported to the Council, suggesting a modified scheme of drainage, which was accepted, and an engineer appointed to carry this into effect. In regard to details of drainage and water supply, subsequent reports and inspections have been made; the works are now in progress. As far as it goes this will no doubt be a benefit to the district; but I beg leave to express the hope that it may be regarded only as an instalment of a future more comprehensive scheme.

UNHEALTHY DWELLINGS.

Unhealthy Dwellings.

A representation has been made during the year under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, with regard to a dilapidated dwelling at

Red Cow or Bell's Drove, Littleport. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in dealing with this case, and proceedings have now been instituted before the Justices to obtain a closing order.

A representation has been made under Sec. 46 of the Public Health Act, 1875, with regard to a filthy house at Burnt Chimney Drove, and successfully dealt with.

Several workshops have been inspected during the year under the Factory and Workshops' Acts; in two instances sanitary defects were discovered and satisfactorily dealt with.

OVERCROWDING.

At Stretham, a case of overcrowding was reported at a house in Overcrowding. which there were a husband and wife, and five children, varying in age from 12 months to 12 years, also a married daughter, her husband and their child; and was abated by the removal of the latter family.

A case of overcrowding was reported at the "Borough," Aldreth, and satisfactorily abated by the removal of some members of the family.

At Haddenham, a case of overcrowding was reported, and satisfactorily abated by the removal of some members of the family.

Appended hereto are the usual tabular statements of population, births, deaths and sickness, and the Inspector of Nuisances' table on the sanitary work of the year.

BUSHELL ANNINGSON.

TABLE A.

Table of Deaths during the year 1896, in the Rural Sanitary District of Ely; classified according to Diseases, Ages. and Localities.

1		The state of		and the second		A STREET, STRE
	E3		TOTAL.	22	2 m 8 m 6 m 7 m 8 m 7 m 8 m 8 m 8 m 8 m 8 m 8 m 8	120
	AGE.		Pyæmia.	21c		:
	OF		Influenza.	21b	: - : : - : : : : :	:01
	YEARS	Cancer,			:0:1:0:1:1:1:1:1	. O
10.0		2 Other Diseases.			110000000000000000000000000000000000000	36
	FIVE	səinnin g			:w :- :- : w : : : :	:00
A Salar A	UNDER	Heart Disease.			:978 :0:1:1:1:1:1	24
(Jh	-mond sitinfonnasi				mm-mm-	27
	REN	Agne.			:m:0:10- : : : :	- 7
(40.1	CHILDREN				: : : : : : :	:
120 - 20 4		.197	Rheumatic Fer	15		:
Alice there	S OF	.VI	har swarreid etaszad	14	: : - : : : : ;	-
Action to	DEATHS	.dgi	Whooping Co.	13	: : : : : : :	:
- 24 145			Measles.	12	m : : : : : :	no
Late of Street	INGUISHING		Erysipelas.	11	: : : : : : :	:
to A Age to	ruisi	.61	Finglish Chole	10		:
			Puerperal.	6		:
	DIST		Relapsing.	∞		:
	CAUSES,	FEVERS.	Continued.	1		:
11 11 11	CAU		Enteric or Typhoid.	9		:
	(ED		Typhus.	<u>ئ</u>		:
	SUBJOINED		Croup.	4		:
	SUB	Diphtheria.				
-	FROM	Scarlatina.				
		Smallpox.				:
and the same	LIT			(
	Morta	MORTALITY Sinallpox.		(i)	Juder 5 Juder 6 Juder 6 Juder 7	Under 5 5 upwards
	•)					~~
	ALL AGES.		brawqu bas čð	(d) (h)	81 18 65 4 : : : : :	69
	74	25 and under 65.			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	33
	ITY FROM SUBJOINED		Is and under 2	£	64 70 70 ::::	12
	ITY SUB.		gl 19bau bas d	(6)		9
	rat AT		l and under 5.	(<i>q</i>)	H & 4 C : : : :	30
	MOR CAUSES		Under 1 year.	(0)	0 20 20 - : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	33
I	CA		At all Ages.	(9)	48 48 49 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 11	173
			N.			•
	REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS.				: : : :	•
					nha port	ALS
			REG.		Haddenham Sutton Littleport Downham	Totals
			Γ ())		H % I	
-	-		(((((((((((((((((((

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality

	-	-	-	-				ø
		\vdash	#	:	+	:	<u>ن</u> 1	
		•		•	1	:	1	
		:	1	:		:	1	Total Barbara
			ന	:		:	_	
		-	9	•	07	•	_	
		:	1	:	01	:		
		:	4	:	_		_	
		•		:		•		-
ESTI			_				-	
IIIOL		:		:		:	_	
10		•	 	•	 -	:	_	
OFFIS		•		:		:	_	
Lec		:		:		:		
9101		:	-	:		:	1	
ระ ย		:	1	:		:		
110		:		:	1	:		
or .		:	1	:		:		
181				:		•		
nf I		•		:		:	- i	
11 0 11			İ	:				
		:	1	:		•		
a		:	 	:	<u> </u>	:		
		:	<u>.</u> 1	:		:	_	
GNO		:	<u> </u>	:	<u>'</u> 	:		
200		:		•	<u>'</u>	•	_	
2				_	<u> </u>		_	
OSTE		•			<u>s</u> 2	:	<u> [v.</u>	
2 1		er 5	wards	Jnder 5	upwards	Juder 5	unwards	
2 115	ľ	Under 5	o up	Und	dn g	Und	e un	
nner		_	نت ا	-	<u>-</u>	<u></u>	~	
mur		_	-	_	:		_	
nan			:	6			7	
lo joi			•	6	1			
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken this account in judging of the above records of mortality			:		:		•	
1 11			:		:		*	
		-	~		:		:	
		15	CT	V	Н	6	3	
	sons		10	lusc	1000			
	Deaths occurring outside district among persons belonging thereto.	IInion Woulthouse	enon	Addenhrooke's Hospl	2 2	Fulbourn Aswlum	yranı	
	urrin mong there	1-100	OIN	onko		AC	217	
	ns occ ctan	W W	711 4	hh	CIICI	TALLO	man	
	Deaths occurring of district among poblehonging thereto.	Tinio		Adda	nnar	Fulk	r. air	
	, , ,						-	1

TABLE B.

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1896, in the Rural Sanitary District of Ely; classified according to DISEASES, AGES and LOCALITIES.

Secretaring to the property of			-					
1888 1888		the al.				13		
28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28	Homes in	es in				12		
1 200			Erysipelas.			7		
1887 1888		eir Flatio	Cholera.			10		
19807 1980				.leı	Puerpe	6		• •
1890 1990		d fro	S.	.gui	Relaps	∞		• •
1873 1873	•	nove	EVER	•pən	Contin	2		•
19807 1980	4		F	o or bid.	Enterio Typpo	9		
19807 1980	CAL	Cases es fo				70		• •
19807 1980	1	uch		dn: snouv.	rdrnsM orO	4		• •
1891 1907	_					က		• •
1891 1907		mber		.nai	Scarlat	87		• •
1873 1979		Nu	Smallpox.					
1873 1873 1874 1970		the				13		• •
1873 1873 1874 1891 1875 18907 1		0				12		• •
1873 1873 1874 1891 1875 18907 1	01	ming Fealt	Erysipelas.			11	:0:1:0:1::	6
1873 1873 1874 1875	anic 3	20	English Cholera.			10		
1873 1873 1874 1875	20202	calit	FEVERS.		Puerpe	6	:::-::::	: ¬
12807 Sentiating Census		cal 0		.gai	Relaps	∞		• •
12807 1280	2002					L-		• •
12807 CENSUS CE				o or	instant.	9	:- : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	€ 4
CENSUS C	M	sickn e of				50		: :
12807 CENSUS CE		of S	Membranous.			4		::
12807 CENSUS CE		Cases	Diphtheria,			က	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	:20
CENSUS CENSUS CENSUS 3447 AT ALL AGES. (b) (c) Registered Births. (b) (c) Registered Births. (c) Registered Births. (d) 5 upwards 5 upwards 5 upwards 6 upwards 7 (under 5 7 upwards 7 (under 5 7 upwards 8 upwards 8 upwards 8 upwards 9 upwards 9 upwards 9 upwards 12807	100					62	20 56 66 66 66 66 66 66 66 66 66 66 66 66	14 64
12807 CENSUS POPULATION 32447 (b) Registered Births. 3248 35 145 6 Registered Births. 361	2	7	Smallpox.			-		
12807 CENSUS POPULATION 32447 (b) Registered Births. 3248 35 145 6 Registered Births. 361							er 5	Under 5 5 upwards
12807 CENSUS POPULATION 32447 (b) Registered Births. 3248 (c) Registered Births. 361	,					(d)	Undu Tund Tund Tund Tund Tund Tund	Und 5 up
12807 CENSUS POPULATION 1873			registeren Dittiis.			<u></u>		<u>~~</u>
						<u> </u>		36
NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities. (a) Haddenham Sutton Littleport Downham Totals						(9)	3248 4239 1873	12807
NAMES OF LOCALIT adopted for the pose of these statist Public Institutions ing shown as sepa localities. (a) Sutton Littleport Downham Totals		pur- tics; be- urate						
NAMES OF LOC adopted for pose of these s Public Instituting shown as localities. Haddenham Sutton Littleport Downham		es or Localitated for the of these statistic Institutions hown as separties.						
NAMES OF adopted for pose of the Public In ing shown localities. Haddenh Sutton Littlepor Downhan						(a)	r r	LS
NAMI adopt pose c Publi ing s locali Sutta Littl Dow					ties.		denh on epor	Тота
A S DH G G			AME	uopu ose c ublic	ocalii		Hade Sutte Dow	
	1_		40	s 54.11.	<u> </u>			

Note: - "Notification of Infectious Disease" has been compulsory in the District since 1st August, 1890. There is no Isolation Hospital for the use of the Sick.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1896.

1.	Accumulations of filth removed	• • •	• • •	86
2.	Houses in a bad state of repair rep instances satisfactorily dealt with		in most	21
3.	Yards to dwellings in an offensive state			59
4.	Privy nuisances, foul, &c. remedied			80
5.	Privies new, and removed, vault filled			00
•	into earth closets	*		50
6.	Animals kept in an offensive state ren	noved		45
7.	Overcrowding, cases of, abated	• • •	• • •	3
8.	Water supply deficient and impure, &	c	• • •	12
9.	Samples of water taken to County An	alyst	• • •	9
10.	Wells closed	• • •		0
11.	Cases of infectious and contagious of	diseases visi	ted and	
	supplied with disinfectants	• • •	• • •	91
12.	Schools closed	• • •	• • •	3
13.	Houses disinfected by Inspector	• • •	• • •	71
14.	Drainage nuisances; drains repaired a	and new suj	pplied	61
15.	Foul ditches cleaned out	• • •	• • •	38
16.	New gulleys to drains	• • •	• • •	30
17.	Street drains trapped	* * *	• • •	10
18.	Parish ponds cleaned out	• • •		12
19.	New parish pumps	•	• • •	0
20.	Parish pumps repaired	• • •	• • •	21
21.	New houses erected	• • •	• • •	10
22.	Certificates granted under sec. 6	of Public	Health	
	(Water) Act, 1878		• • •	10
23.	Lodging houses registered	• • •	• • •	1
	Bakehouses, slaughterhouses, visited	all th	hroughout	district
	Holme's lode, water supply	• • •		cleared
	Black Bank sewer drains	• • •	rode	d twice
	New slaughter houses	• • •	• • •	1
	Haddenham. 6 chains 12in. main se	wer extende	ed.	
	Littleport. 154 yds. new sewer, Sutt being laid.	on Row ar	nd Painters	s' Lane
	Running sand removed from well, Ch	urchway. D	ownham.	

W. Green,
Inspector of Nuisances



